

## STE

- They turn their heads to sea, their *sterns* to land. *Dryd.*  
 2. Post of management; direction.  
 The king from Eltam I intend to fend,  
 And fit at chiefest *stern* of publick weal. *Shakef. H. VI.*  
 3. The hinder part of any thing.  
 She all at once her beastly body raised,  
 With doubled forces high above the ground,  
 Though wrapping up her wreathed *stern* around. *Fa. Queen.*  
*STERNAGE. n. f.* [from *stern*.] The steerage or stern. Not used.  
 Grapple your minds to *sternage* of this navy,  
 And leave your England as dead midnight still. *Shakespeare.*  
*STERNLY. adj.* [from *stern*.] In a stern manner; severely; truculently.  
*Sternly* he pronounc'd *Milton's Parad. Lost.*  
 The rigid interdiction,  
 Yet sure thou art not, nor thy face the fame,  
 Nor thy limbs moulded in so soft a frame;  
 Thou look'st more *sternly*, do'st more strongly move,  
 And more of awe thou bear'st, and less of love. *Dryden.*  
*STERNNESS. n. f.* [from *stern*.]  
 1. Severity of look.  
 Of stature huge, and eke of courage bold,  
 That fons of men amaz'd their *sternness* to behold. *Spenser.*  
 How would he look to see his work so noble  
 Wildly bound up! or how  
 Should I, in these my borrow'd haunts, behold  
 The *sternness* of his presence! *Shakespeare.*  
 2. Severity or harshness of manners.  
 I have *sternness* in my soul enough  
 To hear of soldiers work. *Dryden's Cleomenes.*  
*STERNON. n. f.* [from *stern*.] The breast-bone.  
 A soldier was shot in the breast through the *sternon*. *Wise man.*  
*STERNUTATION. n. f.* [from *sternutatio*, Latin.] The act of sneezing.  
*Sternutation* is a convulsive shaking of the nerves and muscles, first occasioned by an irritation of those in the nostrils. *Quincy.*  
 Concerning *sternutation*, or sneezing, and the custom of saluting upon that motion, it is generally believed to derive its original from a disease wherein *sternutation* proved mortal, and such as sneezed died. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
*STERNUTATIVE. adj.* [from *sternutatio*, Fr. from *sternuto*, Lat.] Having the quality of sneezing.  
*STERNUTATORY. n. f.* [from *sternutaire*, Fr. from *sternuto*, Lat.] Medicine that provokes to sneeze.  
 Physicians, in persons near death, use *sternutatories*, or such medicines as provoke unto sneezing; when if the faculty arise, and *sternutation* ensue, they conceive hopes of life. *Brown.*  
*STEVEN. n. f.* [from *stēpen*, Saxon.] A cry, or loud clamour.  
 Ne sooner was out, but swifter than thought,  
 Flew by the hide, the wolf Lowder caught;  
 And had not Roffly renne to the *stevens*,  
 Lowder had been slain thilke same even. *Spenser.*  
 To *STEW. v. a.* [from *stewer*, French; *stewen*, Dutch.]  
 To seeth any thing in a slow moist heat.  
 Ere I was risen from the place, that show'd  
 My duty kneeling, came a recking post,  
 Stew'd in his haste, half breathless. *Shakef. King Lear.*  
 I bruil'd my skin with playing at sword and dagger with a  
 master of fence, three venes for a dish of stew'd prunes. *Shak.*  
 To *STEW. v. n.* To be seethed in a slow moist heat.  
*STEW. n. f.* [from *stewe*, French; *stufa*, Italian; *estufa*, Spanish.]  
 1. A bagnio; a hot-house.  
 As burning *Etna* from his boiling *stew*  
 Doth belch out flames, and rocks in pieces broke,  
 And ragged ribs of mountains molten new,  
 Enwrap't in coal-black clouds and filthy smoke. *Fa. Queen.*  
 The Lydians were inhibited by Cyrus to use any armour,  
 and give themselves to baths and *stews*. *Abbot.*  
 2. A brothel; a house of prostitution. [This signification is by  
 some imputed to this, that there were licenced brothels near  
 the *stews* or fishponds in Southwark; but probably *stew*, like  
 bagnio, took a bad signification from bad use.]  
 There be that hate harlots, and never were at the *stews*; that  
 abhor falsehood, and never brake promise. *Ascham.*  
 My business in this state  
 Made me a looker-on here in Vienna,  
 Where I have seen corruption boil and bubble,  
 'Till it o'er-run the *stew*. *Shakespeare.*  
 With them there are no *stews*, no dissolute houses, no cur-  
 telans. *Bacon's New Atlantis.*  
 Her, though seven years she in the *stews* had laid,  
 A nunnery durst receive and think a maid  
 And though in childbed's labour she did lie,  
 Midwives would swear 'twere but a tympany. *Donne.*  
 What moderate top would rake the park or *stews*,  
 Who among troops of faultless nymphs can chuse? *Roscom.*  
 Making his own house a *stew*, a bordel, and a school of  
 lewdness, to infill the rudiments of vice into the unwary  
 flexible years of his poor children. *South's Sermons.*

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3. [from *stewen*, Dutch, to store.] A storepond; a small pond where  
 fish are kept for the table.  
*STEWARD. n. f.* [from *steward*, Saxon.]  
 1. One who manages the affairs of another.  
 There sat yclad in red,  
 Down to the ground, a comely personage,  
 That in his hand a white rod managed;  
 He *steward* was, hight diet, ripe of age,  
 And in demeanour sober, and in council sage. *Fa. Queen.*  
 Whilst I have gold, I'll be his *steward* still. *Shak. Timon.*  
 Take on you the charge  
 And kingly government of this your land;  
 Not as protector, *steward*, substitute,  
 Or lowly factor for another's gain. *Shakef. Richard III.*  
 How is it that I hear this of thee? Give an account of thy  
 stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer *steward*. *Lu. xvi.*  
 When a *steward* defrauds his lord, he must connive at the  
 rest of the servants while they are following the same practice.  
 What can be a greater honour than to be chosen one of the  
*stewards* and dispensers of God's bounty to mankind? What  
 can give a generous spirit more complacency than to consider,  
 that great numbers owe to him, under God, their subsistence,  
 and the good conduct of their lives? *Swift.*  
 2. An officer of state.  
 The duke of Suffolk is the first, and claims  
 To be high *steward*. *Shakespeare.*  
*STEWARDSHIP. n. f.* [from *steward*.] The office of a  
 steward.  
 The earl of Worcester  
 Hath broke his staff, resign'd his *stewardship*. *Shakef. R. II.*  
 Shew us the hand of God  
 That hath dismiss'd us from our *stewardship*. *Shakespeare.*  
 If they are not employed to such purposes, we are false to  
 our trust, and the *stewardship* committed to us, and shall be  
 one day severely accountable to God for it. *Calamy's Sermons.*  
*STIBIAL. adj.* [from *stibium*, Latin.] Antimonial.  
 The former depend upon a corrupt incinerated melancholy,  
 and the latter upon an adust *stibial* or eruginous sulphur. *Harv.*  
*STICADOS. n. f.* [from *sticadus*, Latin.] An herb. *Ansforth.*  
*STICK. n. f.* [from *sticca*, Saxon; *sticca*, Italian; *stick*, Dutch.] A  
 piece of wood small and long.  
 Onions as they hang will shoot forth, and so will the herb  
 orpin, with which in the country they trim their houses, bind-  
 ing it to a lath or *stick* set against a wall. *Bacon's Nat. History.*  
 Some strike from clashing flints their fiery feed,  
 Some gather *sticks* the kindled flames to feed. *Dryden.*  
 To *STICK. v. a.* preterite *stuck*; participle pass. *stuck*. [from  
 Saxon.] To fasten on so as that it may adhere.  
 Two troops in fair array one moment flow'd;  
 The next, a field with fallen bodies frow'd;  
 The points of spears are *stuck* within the shield,  
 The steeds without their riders scour the field,  
 The knights unhors'd. *Dryden.*  
 Would our ladies, instead of *sticking* on a patch against  
 their country, sacrifice their necklaces against the common  
 enemy, what decrees ought not to be made in their fa-  
 vour? *Addison.*  
 Oh for some pedant reign,  
 Some gentle James to bless the land again;  
 To *stick* the doctor's chair unto the throne,  
 Give law to words, or war with words alone. *Pope.*  
 To *STICK. v. n.*  
 1. To adhere; to unite itself by its tenacity or penetrating  
 power.  
 I will cause the fish of thy rivers to *stick* unto thy scales. *Ez.*  
 The green caterpillar breedeth in the inward parts of roses  
 not blown, where the dew *sticketh*. *Bacon.*  
 Though the sword be put into the sheath, we must not suf-  
 fer it there to rust, or *stick* so fast as that we shall not be able  
 to draw it readily, when need requires. *Raleigh.*  
 2. To be inseparable; to be united with any thing. Generally  
 in an ill sense.  
 Now does he feel  
 His secret murders *sticking* on his hands. *Shakef. Macbeth.*  
 He is often stigmatized with it, as a note of infamy, to *stick*  
 by him whilst the world lasteth. *Sanderjon.*  
 In their quarrels they proceed to calling names, 'till they  
 light upon one that is sure to *stick*. *Swift.*  
 3. To rest upon the memory painfully.  
 The going away of that which had staid so long, doth yet  
*stick* with me. *Bacon's Natural History.*  
 4. To stop; to lose motion.  
 I shudder at the name!  
 My blood runs backward, and my fault'ring tongue  
*Sticks* at the found. *Smith's Phœdra and Hippolitus.*  
 5. To resist emission.  
 Wherefore could I not pronounce amen?  
 I had most need of blessing, and amen  
*Stuck* in my throat. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*

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6. To be constant; to adhere with firmness.  
 The knave will *stick* by thee, I can assure thee that: he will  
 not out, he is true bred. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*  
 The first contains a *sticking* fast to Christ, when the Chris-  
 tian profession is persecuted; and the second a rising from sin,  
 as he rose, to a new Christian life. *Hammond.*  
 Some *stick* to you, and some to t'other side.  
 They could not but conclude, that to be their interest, and  
 being so convinced, pursue it and *stick* to it. *Tillotson.*  
 The advantage will be on our side, if we *stick* to its essen-  
 tials. *Addison's Freeholder.*  
 7. To be troublesome by adhering.  
 I am satisfied to trifle away my time, rather than let it *stick*  
 by me. *Pope's Letters.*  
 8. To remain; not to be lost.  
 Proverbial sentences are formed into a verse, whereby they  
*stick* upon the memory. *Watts.*  
 9. To dwell upon; not to forsake.  
 If the matter be knotty, the mind must stop and buckle to  
 it, and *stick* upon it with labour and thought, and not leave  
 it 'till it has mastered the difficulty. *Locke.*  
 Every man, besides occasional affections, has beloved stu-  
 dies which the mind will more closely *stick* to. *Locke.*  
 10. To cause difficulties or scruple.  
 This is the difficulty that *sticks* with the most reasonable  
 of those who, from conscience, refuse to join with the Revolu-  
 tion. *Swift.*  
 11. To scruple; to hesitate.  
 It is a good point of cunning for a man to shape the answer  
 he would have in his own words and propositions; for it makes  
 the other party *stick* the less. *Bacon.*  
 The church of Rome, under pretext of exposition of Scrip-  
 ture, doth not *stick* to add and alter. *Bacon.*  
 Rather than impute our miscarriages to our own corruption,  
 we do not *stick* to arraign providence itself. *L'Estrange.*  
 Every one without hesitation supposes eternity, and *sticks*  
 not to ascribe infinity to duration. *Locke.*  
 That two bodies cannot be in the same place is a truth  
 that no body any more *sticks* at, than at this maxim, that it is  
 impossible for the same thing to be, and not to be. *Locke.*  
 To *stick* at nothing for the publick interest is represented as  
 the refined part of the Venetian wisdom. *Addison on Italy.*  
 Some *stick* not to say, that the parson and attorney forged a  
 will. *Arbutnot.*  
 12. To be flopped; to be unable to proceed.  
 If we should fail.  
 — We fail!  
 But screw your courage to the *sticking* place,  
 And we'll not fail. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*  
 They never doubted the commons; but heard all *stuck* in  
 the lords house, and desired the names of those who hindered  
 the agreement between the lords and commons. *Clarendon.*  
 He threw: the trembling weapon pass'd  
 Through nine bull-hides, each under other plac'd  
 On his broad shield, and *stuck* within the last. *Dryden.*  
 13. To be embarrassed; to be puzzled.  
 Where they *stick*, they are not to be farther puzzled by  
 putting them upon finding it out themselves. *Locke.*  
 They will *stick* long at part of a demonstration, for want of  
 perceiving the connexion of two ideas, that, to one more  
 exercised, is as visible as anything. *Locke.*  
 Souls a little more capacious can take in the connexion of  
 a few propositions; but if the chain be prolix, here they *stick*  
 and are confounded. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*  
 14. To *STICK out.* To be prominent with deformity.  
 His flesh is consumed away that it cannot be seen, and his  
 bones that were not seen *stick out*. *Job xxxiii. 21.*  
 15. To *STICK out.* To be unemployed.  
 To *STICK. v. a.* [from *sticca*, Saxon; *sticca*, Dutch.]  
 1. To stab; to pierce with a pointed instrument.  
 The Heruli, when their old kindred fell sick, *stuck* them  
 with a dagger. *Grew.*  
 2. To fix upon a pointed body.  
 3. To fasten by transfixion.  
 Her death!  
 I'll stand betwixt: it first shall pierce my heart:  
 We will be *stuck* together on his dart. *Dryd. Tyrant Love.*  
 4. To set with something pointed.  
 A lofty pile they rear;  
 The fabric's front with cypress twiss they strew,  
 And *stick* the sides with boughs of baleful yew. *Dryden.*  
*STICKINESS. n. f.* [from *sticky*.] Adhesive quality; viscosity;  
 glutinousness; tenacity.  
 To *STICKLE. v. n.* [from the practice of prizefighters, who  
 placed seconds with staves or *sticks* to interpose occasionally.]  
 1. To take part with one side or other.  
 Fortune, as she's wont, turn'd fickle,  
 And for the foe began to *stickle*. *Hudibras.*  
 2. To contend; to altercation; to contend rather with obstinacy  
 than vehemence.  
 Let them go to't, and *stickle*,  
 Whether a conclave, or a conventicle. *Cleveland.*

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- Heralds *stickle*, who got who,  
 So many hundred years ago. *Hudibras.*  
 3. To trim; to play fast and loose; to act a part between op-  
 posites.  
 When he sees half of the Christians killed, and the rest in  
 a fair way of being routed, he *stickles* betwixt the remainder of  
 God's host and the race of fiends. *Dryden's Juv. Dedication.*  
*STICKLEBAG. n. f.* [Properly *stickleback*, from *stick*, to prick.]  
 The smallest of fresh-water fish.  
 A little fish called a *sticklebag*, without scales, hath his body  
 fenced with several prickles. *Watson's Angler.*  
*STICKLER. n. f.* [from *stickle*.]  
 1. A fideleman to fence; a second to a duellist; one who stands  
 to judge a combat.  
 Basilus came to part them, the *stickler's* authority being un-  
 able to persuade choleric hearers; and part them he did. *Sidn.*  
 Basilus, the judge, appointed *sticklers* and trumpets;  
 whom the others should obey. *Sidney.*  
 Our former chiefs, like *sticklers* of the war,  
 First fought 't inflame the parties, then to poise:  
 The quarrel lov'd, but did the cause abhor;  
 And did not strike to hurt, but made a noise. *Dryden.*  
 2. An obstinate contender about any thing.  
 Quercetanus, though the grand *stickler* for the *tria prima*,  
 has this concession of the irresolubleness of diamonds. *Boyle.*  
 The inferior tribe of common women have, in most reigns,  
 been the professed *sticklers* for such as have acted against the  
 true interest of the nation. *Addison's Freeholder.*  
 The tory or high church clergy were the greatest *sticklers*  
 against the exorbitant proceedings of king James II. *Swift.*  
 All place themselves in the list of the national church,  
 though they are great *sticklers* for liberty of conscience. *Swift.*  
*STICKY. adj.* [from *stick*.] Viscous; adhesive; glutinous.  
 Herbs which last longest are those of strong smell and with  
 a *sticky* stalk. *Bacon's Natural History.*  
*STIFF. adj.* [from *stiff*, Saxon; *stiff*, Danish; *stif*, Swedish; *stifur*,  
 Icelandic; *stijf*, Dutch.]  
 1. Rigid; inflexible; resisting flexure; not flaccid; not limber;  
 not easily flexible; not pliant.  
 They rising on *stiff* pinions tower  
 The mid aerial sky. *Milton.*  
 The glittering robe  
 Hang floating loose, or *stiff* with mazy gold. *Thomson.*  
 2. Not soft; not giving way; not fluid; not easily yielding to  
 the touch.  
 Still less and less my boiling spirits flow;  
 And I grow *stiff* as cooling metals do. *Dryd. Indian Emp.*  
 Mingling with that oily liquor, they were wholly incorpo-  
 rate, and so grew more *stiff* and firm, making but one sub-  
 stance. *Burnet's Theory of the Barbs.*  
 3. Strong; not easily refuted.  
 On a *stiff* gale  
 The Theban swan extends his wings. *Denham.*  
 4. Hardy; stubborn; not easily subdued.  
 How *stiff* is my vile sense,  
 That I stand up, and have ingenious feeling  
 Of my huge sorrows! Better I were distract! *Shakespeare.*  
 5. Obstinate; pertinacious.  
 We neither allow unmeet nor purpose the *stiff* defence of  
 any unnecessary custom heretofore received. *Hooker.*  
 Yield to others when there is cause; but it is a shame to  
 stand *stiff* in a foolish argument. *Taylor.*  
 A war ensues, the Cretans own their cause,  
*Stiff* to defend their hospitable laws. *Dryden.*  
 6. Harsh; not written with ease; constrained.  
 7. Formal; rigorous in certain ceremonies; not disengaged in  
 behaviour; starched; affected.  
 The French are open, familiar, and talkative; the Italians  
*stiff*, ceremonious, and reserved. *Addison on Italy.*  
 8. In *Shakespeare* it seems to mean strongly maintained, or af-  
 fected with good evidence. *Shakespeare.*  
 This is *stiff* news.  
 To *STIFFEN. v. a.* [from *stiffen*, Saxon.]  
 1. To make stiff; to make inflexible; to make unpliant.  
 When the blast of war blows in our ears,  
 Stiffen the sinews, summon up the blood,  
 Disguise fair nature with hard favour'd rage. *Shakef. H. V.*  
 He *stiffened* his neck, and hardened his heart from turning  
 unto the Lord. *2 Chron. xxxvi. 13.*  
 The poor, by them disrobed, naked lie,  
 Veil'd with no other covering but the sky;  
 Expos'd to *stiff'ning* frosts, and drenching showers,  
 Which thicken'd air from her black bosom pours. *Sandys.*  
 Her eyes grow *stiffen'd*, and with sulphur burn. *Dryden.*  
 2. To make obstinate.  
 Her *stiff'ning* grief,  
 Who saw her children slaughter'd all at once,  
 Was dull to mine. *Dryden and Lee.*  
 To *STIFFEN. v. n.*  
 1. To grow stiff; to grow rigid; to become unpliant.  
 Aghast, astonish'd, and struck dumb with fear,  
 I stood; like bristles rose my *stiff'ning* hair. *Dryden.*  
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